

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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TO: Colorado Transportation Commission

FROM: Scott Richrath, Transportation Performance Branch Manager

SUBJECT: Executive Brief: Advancing a Transportation Asset Management Approach

DATE: October 5, 2012

Purpose

This memorandum summarizes Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) *Executive Brief: Advancing a Transportation Asset Management Approach*. Commissioner Connell and the Asset Management Committee requested that staff provide this for Information Only. It provides an overview of many of the Asset Management concepts published by FHWA and the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) in the *Transportation Asset Management Guide*.

Background

This report is intended for executives who want to understand how to change their organizations to fully utilize TAM. It documents the use of strategic planning, organizational theory, change management and communication to shift an agency from a short-term, worst-first approach to a long-term, cost effective, sustainable and accountable Asset Management approach.

A strong Asset Management program helps state departments of transportation answer questions such as:

- What is the state of my assets?
- What is my required level of service?
- Which assets are critical to sustained performance?
- What are my best "Operations and Maintenance" and "Capital Improvement" investment strategies?
- What is my best long-term funding strategy?

CDOT today is relying heavily on the concepts within the report and within the *Transportation Asset Management Guide* to help build a Transportation Asset Management Plan that will comply with federal authorization's requirement that states develop a Risk-Based Asset Management Plan. In addition to a plan, CDOT is developing a Multi-Asset Management System designed to optimize investments in CDOT's infrastructure, with a focus on preservation and consideration for operations. According to the report, "this systematic optimization allows agencies to 'get the biggest bang' for their scarce infrastructure resources and demonstrate that they are taking a rational and systematic approach to maximizing public resources."